"In the Beginning, God....." A Verse-by-Verse Study of the Book of Genesis

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Genesis 31 - Questions

:1-3

1. What do you see in these verses which is encouraging for Jacob?

:4-13

2. Why did Jacob's "husbandry" work so well? Would that same technique work today?

:14-16

3. Are Jacob's wives OK with Jacob's plan? Why?

4.:17-21

Why is Jacob sneaking away? Why has Rachel stolen her father's household idols?

:22-24

5. Is God protecting Jacob as he flees? Why?

:26 - 32

6. Why is Laban so angry with Jacob? What reason does Jacob give for running away secretly?

:33-35

7. What would have happened to Rachel if she had been caught with her father's household idols?

:36-42

8. What had caused this relationship to go so bad?

:43-50

9. What is going to save this relationship? Is verse: 49 a statement of love?

10. :51-55

What else is going to save this relationship?

11. What can we learn from this chapter about relationships?

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As believers in Jesus, we are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. This citizenship asks us to live differently than the world. For example, it asks us to maintain our relationships on a much higher level.

Here are some verses which will help us look at our relationships today with the eyes of God:

Matthew 5:21&22

Matthew 5:38-42

Matthew 5:43-44

Matthew 6:14&15

Matthew 7:1-5

John 13:13&14

John 13:34&35

Romans 13:7

Romans 14:13

Ephesians 5:19-21

Philippians 2:3&4

I think you will see, as you look up these verses, that we all have a long way to go in at least some of our relationships.

The standard Jesus wants us to meet is not "just enough to get along", is it?

Quite often, it seems impossible to follow Jesus' quidelines for relationships.

How did Jacob's relationship with Laban measure up to the standards Jesus has set for us in the New Testament?

Next week we'll see how Jacob finally learns what he must do to be the person God wants him to be.

What can I do if I would like to be the person Jesus wants me to be, but I just can't find it in myself to do the things He asks me to do?